



**COUNCILLOR/CONSEILLER
RILEY BROCKINGTON**



**Riverside Park Community Association Meeting
December 1, 2021**

Dear friends and neighbours of Riverside Park,

December is a colourful month, with celebrations of the Festival of Lights-Hanukkah (November 29 to December 6), Christmas (December 25) and Kwanzaa (December 26 to January 1). Wishing you the best of times with your family and friends if you celebrate any of these special events.

Please remember those in need in our City. If you have the financial means to support a local charity of your choice, please do so this month. The pandemic has impacted many individuals and families in many ways, and your generosity will make a difference. If you need assistance this time of year, please reach out in confidence to my office and we can discuss your personal situation, 613-580-2486.

Be safe, enjoy the month ahead and please reach out if the River Ward Team can assist you.

Sincerely yours,
Riley

Holly Jolly Jamboree - December 11

Please join myself, the River Ward team, and fellow community members at the Annual River Ward Holly Jolly Jamboree. Saturday, December 11 from 1pm to 3pm.

For more information, email Rhiannon.Wilson@Ottawa.ca

COVID AND OTTAWA PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATES

Vaccination of children aged 5-11

Ottawa residents can now book COVID-19 vaccine appointments for five to 11-year-olds (born 2016 or earlier) through the provincial booking system. OPH urges everyone who is eligible for their COVID-19 vaccine to get fully vaccinated. The higher the vaccination rates are in our community, the better chance we have of protecting those around us and keeping COVID-19 levels in the community and schools low.

Ottawa Public Health is aiming to make vaccination for these young residents and their families as easy and comfortable as possible, with new child-friendly signage and fun stickers to take home. Check the website for tips on how to prepare for your child's appointment, such as giving children a snack beforehand and bringing a comforting toy or music to listen to.

Third dose Update

Following the [Provincial announcement](#) on eligibility for third doses (booster doses) of the COVID-19 vaccines, Ottawa Public Health is expanding capacity at its four [community clinics](#) to operate seven days per week. This applies to the following clinic locations:

- University of Ottawa – Minto Sports Complex
- JH Putman School
- Eva James Memorial Centre
- Orleans Ruddy Family YMCA-YWCA

Based on recommendations from the Chief Medical Officer of Health and in alignment with the National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI), the province will begin offering third doses (booster doses) of the COVID-19 vaccine to the following vulnerable populations if at least six months have passed since their last dose:

- Individuals aged 70 and over (born in 1951 or earlier);
- [Health care workers](#);
- Designated essential caregivers in congregate settings (including long-term care home and retirement home staff);
- Individuals who received a complete series of a viral vector vaccine (two doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine or one dose of the Janssen vaccine); and
- First Nation, Inuit and Métis adults (16+) and their non-Indigenous household members.

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- First Nation, Inuit and Métis adults (16+) and their non-Indigenous household members.

All Ottawa residents who meet these criteria will be able to book an appointment for their third dose through the provincial [COVID-19 vaccination portal](#) or by calling the Provincial Vaccine Contact Centre at 1-833-943-3900, starting Saturday November 6 at 8 am. Appointments are encouraged, as drop-in availability is limited.

Eligible residents can also reach out to select local pharmacies for their third dose, using the [provincial pharmacy locator](#) to find those that provide the booster dose. Many healthcare workers and first responders will have the opportunity to receive their third dose through their employer.

A third dose of the COVID-19 vaccine will be given at least twenty-four weeks (six months) after the second dose. All booster doses will be mRNA vaccines. Mixing COVID-19 vaccines is safe, effective, and enables Ontarians to benefit from the protection of a booster dose. We encourage all those eligible to book an appointment and get their third COVID-19 vaccine at their local pharmacy or a community clinic.

Getting your third dose of the COVID-19 vaccine does not impact your [flu vaccine](#) – COVID-19 vaccines may be given at the same time as, or before/after other vaccines. Individuals two years of age and older can visit [participating pharmacies](#) to receive their flu vaccine. Individuals aged six months and older may also receive their flu vaccine from their family doctor or nurse practitioner. Anyone aged six months and older who lives, works or attends school in Ontario is eligible to receive the publicly funded flu vaccine at no cost.

For more information about the COVID-19 vaccine, please visit OttawaPublicHealth.ca/COVID19Vaccine.

TRANSIT UPDATES – OC TRANSPO

Free Transit in December

OC Transpo will be offering unlimited free service on all forms of transit (buses, O-Train and Para Transpo) to customers in December, in recognition of the considerable disruption faced by transit users following the suspension of O-Train Line 1 service.

OC Transpo is making unlimited free transit in December as easy as possible for customers:

- From December 1 to 31, fare gates at all O-Train stations will be opened and fare boxes and smartcard readers on all OC Transpo buses will be covered.
- Monthly December passes will not be sold.
- Presto customers with auto-renew subscriptions will see a one-cent charge which will be credited back to their account.
- U-Pass customers or customers with a school board issued pass do not need to tap their card at O-Train stations or on OC Transpo buses.
- All Para Transpo trips during December will be at no charge.

Regular fares continue to apply to transit customers travelling on the [Société de transport de l'Outaouais](#) (STO) system. Customers who had a monthly pass on their Presto card in November and U-Pass customers should tap their card as they board but no charges will be applied. Other customers will need to pay the applicable STO fare.

Seasonal Service Changes – OC Transpo

Holiday	Date	Service Type
Christmas Week	Monday, December 20 to Friday, December 24	Reduced weekday schedule
Christmas Day	Saturday, December 25	Sunday schedule
Boxing Day	Sunday, December 26	Saturday schedule, with extra service on busy routes
Christmas Day Holiday observed	Monday, December 27	Saturday schedule
Boxing Day Holiday observed	Tuesday, December 28	Saturday schedule
New Year's Week	Wednesday, December 29 to Thursday, December 30	Reduced weekday schedule
New Year's Eve	Friday, December 31	Reduced weekday schedule, with Line 2 bus service extended to 1 am
New Year's Day	Saturday, January 1	Sunday schedule

OC Transpo unveils Ottawa's first battery-electric buses

The four new 40-foot battery-electric buses will be ready to enter service in early 2022 and will be housed at OC Transpo's St-Laurent Garage. The garage has undergone significant retrofits to welcome the new electric buses, with four plug-in style charging stations installed by Envari Energy Solutions, a subsidiary of Hydro Ottawa.

OC Transpo is in the early stages of a fleet conversion plan that will seek to add an additional 74 battery-electric buses to its fleet in 2023, with 450 zero-emission buses phased into operation by 2027. With the gradual phase-out of diesel buses as they reach their end of life, OC Transpo could achieve a fully zero-emission bus fleet by 2036. OC Transpo will seek to leverage

government loans, funding and grants, so that no additional municipal tax funding will be required to convert OC Transpo's transit fleet to zero-emission buses.

In addition to offering a quieter ride, battery-electric buses are expected to offer savings through reduced operating costs. Converting from diesel-powered vehicles to electric is also a key component of the Climate Change Master Plan, the City's overarching framework to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and respond to the current and future effects of climate change.

Quick Facts

- Chargers installed at the St-Laurent Garage can charge a bus from empty to full in five hours.
- The City's battery-electric buses will be of similar capacity and design as OC Transpo's existing 40-foot diesel buses to provide a standardized customer experience, with route planning based on a range of 250 kilometres in typical urban operation without recharging.
- Battery-electric buses are currently the most widely used zero-emission technology in the transit industry and are on the roads of several Canadian municipalities, including Montréal, Toronto, Edmonton, and Winnipeg.
- A diesel-powered bus consumes on average 35,000 litres of fuel per year.
- The Climate Change Master Plan includes the goal of reducing emissions from City operations by 100 per cent by 2040.

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

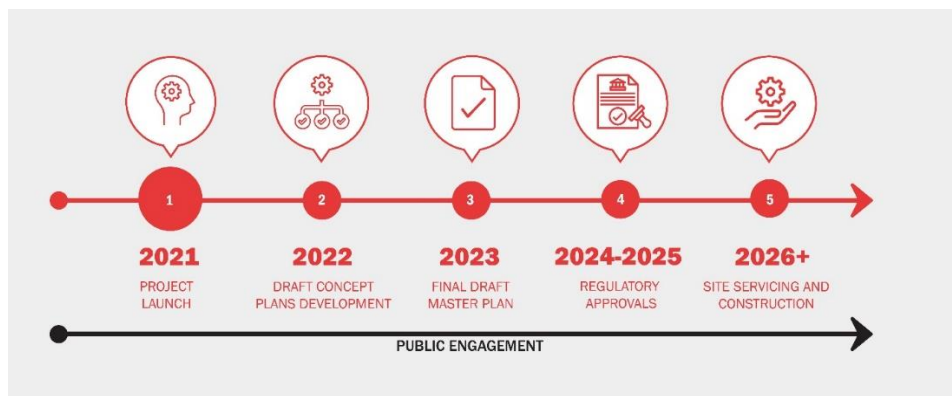
St Pat's Home Development – Phase 2

The Zoning By-law amendment was passed at the City Council meeting on November 10 to permit the construction of a 7 story apartment building and rezone the site to Residential Fifth Density, Subzone A with exceptions and a height limit of 24 metres, to reduce the ratio of required vehicular parking for tenants from 1.2 spaces/dwelling unit to 0.9 spaces/dwelling unit, and to regularize and bring forward the zoning for the existing St. Patrick's Home. The proposed apartment building is to be located on the north side of the site between the existing parking lot and the trees. The trees are not proposed to be removed or negatively impacted.

Confederation Heights Master Plan

Canada Lands Company held Public Engagement Sessions on November 23 and November 25 to inform the public of the Master Plan for Confederation Heights. Occupying 465 acres, Confederation Heights is ideally situated to become a sustainable, transit oriented, urban mixed-use community that will serve as a federal employment hub over the next 25 years. The master plan will guide a wide range of stakeholders to outline future land uses, built forms, heritage commemoration elements, servicing infrastructure, as well as establish framework for additional affordable housing, sustainable urban and architectural principles, public realm, and amenities for the broader community. With the extension of the LRT south, an exciting opportunity exists to develop our community into the future.

www.engage.clc-sic.ca/realize-the-potential.



INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

Riverside Drive Repaving

Approximately 20 arterial roads that were slated for repaving this calendar year are significantly delayed and are now pushed to Spring 2022, including Riverside Drive between Walkley Road and the St Pat's Home.

Labour shortages, utility locate work and concrete work in advance of repaving are all major issues contributing to delays on road construction projects.

LRT Phase 2 – Hunt Club Closures

Daytime peak and off-peak lane closures started on November 23, 2021 and was required to advance the bridge deck and approach work, which span the full width across Hunt Club road. To safely allow this work to proceed, crews continue to conduct this work within a lane closure, resulting in the temporary closure of lanes on Hunt Club road and the Airport Parkway on and off ramps.



The city anticipates the following impacts:

- Closure of the Southbound Airport Parkway ramp to Eastbound Hunt Club road from November 23rd to February 11th
- Closure of Northbound Airport Parkway on ramp from Eastbound Hunt Club road from November 23rd to February 11th
- Closure of Southbound Airport Parkway on ramp from Westbound Hunt Club road from November 23rd to February 11th
- Closure of Northbound Airport Parkway off ramp to Westbound Hunt Club road from November 23rd to February 11th
- Single lane closures on Eastbound Hunt club road between the Airport Parkway and Daze street 24 hours a day / 7 days a week

- Single lane closures on Westbound Hunt Club road between the Airport Parkway and Daze street from 7pm to 3pm

Walkley Road Bridge

Stage 2 work of the Walkley Road bridge replacement is still underway. They are currently replacing sidewalls, railings, sidewalks and paving new drive lanes. They anticipate that stage two work will extend until December 17, 2021. They will then switch the traffic to the north side lanes and extend the bridge by 1.4 meters on the south side to abut the Walkley road station, connecting our communities. The end of the project is expected in the first two weeks of February 2022.

Hydro One Infrastructure Upgrade

Hydro One plans to reconductor approximately 11.9km of a high-transmission line which includes the corridor that runs east to west across River Ward just north of McCarthy Woods and south of Southmore-Dickinson.

Hydro One has advised that the work is to replace the conductors on existing circuits (M30A/M31A) with a two-conductor bundle. The voltage of the line will not change and will remain 230kV. The only change is the current carrying ampacity of the line will increase from 648MW to 1080MW. Hydro One has already started preparing the hydro corridor for line replacement (East of Albion Rd and Hawthorne). They started by installing gravel roads and pads and removing minor vegetation. Most of these are taking place outside River ward, however there are some minor activities specific to River Ward are that are taking place close to the river in order to provide just enough access for the road to the towers. Hydro one expects that the bulk of the electrical work will be completed in the Spring and Fall of 2022 and 2023 with a bypass around Albion Road Transmission Station for this period. This means that the good news is, there will be no effects to distribution clients, meaning no power outages.

During the construction period access to the corridor will be restricted to residents for safety reasons but gained through existing road crossings for Hydro employees at McCarthy Rd (East and West) and on Riverside Dr where existing access gates are in place. Hydro One has begun to reinforce the gated areas with gravel to ensure that vehicles stay to one path and protect the surrounding vegetation.

During the construction period, residents in the area can expect minor noise coming from the equipment in the corridor, however Hydro One's equipment is equipped with Noise

Suppressors, which attenuate the sound to ensure that the noise does not exceed the permitted levels in the Highway Traffic Act. They have assured us that the work will be performed during daylight hours.

Temporary by-pass poles will be installed at two electricity junctions just outside the ward. Once the project is completed there will be little noticeable difference in this transmission line.

Is it safe to live near transmission stations and lines?

Electric and magnetic fields (EMFs) are invisible forces that surround all electrical appliances and equipment, power cords and wiring, and outdoor power lines and equipment operated by utility companies. These fields are at extremely low frequencies. The field strength is strongest close to its source and fades rapidly as you move away from the source.

Health Canada does not consider that any precautionary measures are needed regarding daily exposures to EMFs at extremely low frequencies. There is no conclusive evidence of any harm caused by exposures at levels found in Canadian homes and schools, including those located just outside the boundaries of power line corridors.

How are electric and magnetic fields along the transmission corridor expected to change?

The modifications will be done according to the Canadian Electrical Code that meets the Canadian Standards Association requirements accounting for public safety. The second circuit will be installed on the existing transmission structures and based on Hydro One's calculations, they project that the electric and magnetic fields (EMFs) along the transmission corridor would not substantially change.

At a meeting with Hydro One earlier this year, I was reassured there will only be a slight increase of EMFs as a result of this project. Currently the line emits a reading of 16 milligauss(mG) and the reconductoring could see the reading increase to 18mG. Internationally, voluntary exposure guidelines recommend a residential magnetic field exposure limit of 2,000mG and an occupational exposure limit of 10,000mG. The World Health Organization endorses these guidelines set out by the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection, and both organizations regularly review them.

Who can residents contact if they have project-related questions?

If residents have questions about the project or would like additional information, they are welcome to contact Hydro One Community Relations at 1-877-345-6799 or Community.Relations@HydroOne.com.

Hydro Ottawa Pole Replacement

Hydro Ottawa is currently undergoing Pole Replacement and tree trimming on Riverside Dr and Walkley RD. This could result in minor power disruptions to residents in our community. This work is slated to take place from November 15 – December 17, 2021.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Hunt Club Riverside Park Community Centre

With capacity limits now lifted for community centres, more events may now be held indoors. The Centre is open and offering reduced programming at this time. In January 2022, a full slate of programming will be offered. Drop in and see us at the Ward Office and don't forget to visit and use the Ottawa Public Library kiosks and hold lockers, these are fantastic services brought to you by the Ottawa Public Library.

Pools

In collaboration with Ottawa Public Health, our Facilities Management and Aquatics department has taken a hub approach to service resumption of 13 of our indoor pools. You can visit Ottawa.ca to reserve a swim spot online.

Mooney's Bay Toboggan Hill

Following the abrupt closure of the Mooney's Bay Toboggan Hill in the winter of 2021, City Council approved my motion, unanimously, directing the Parks and Recreation General Manager to address safety issues he has with the Hill, in order that it re-open for this winter. The Hill is open to the public! The City will be installing signage in various locations warning users of the risks involved with tobogganing.

Skiing – Terry Fox Athletic Centre

The Terry Fox Athletic Facility features an extensive outdoor track and field complex featuring an international standard lighted 400-metre polyurethane-surfaced eight-lane running track with multiple throwing and jumping event facilities. The facility also has 3 lit premium classed sports fields. During the winter, the facility turns into a cross-country ski centre (Mooney's Bay Ski Centre) featuring five-kilometre of track set lit trails for classic and skate-skiing and includes a ski school for all ages and abilities.

Ski centre features

- 5 km of groomed trails for both classic and skate (freestyle) skiing techniques
- Lit trails for night skiing
- Free parking
- Indoor change rooms and washrooms
- Ski tuck shop
- Free use of indoor wax benches and waxing irons (subject to availability)
- Free information on equipment, clothing, waxing, trails and related services
- Rentals by Lafleur de la Capital: 613-298-3775

Lessons

The cross-country ski school in Mooney's Bay Park usually offers lessons daily with convenient day and evening options. Special group packages are available.

- Lessons for children, youth and adults from experienced and qualified instructors
- Classes for all abilities from beginner to advanced
- Classic or skate skiing lessons

To find out about the condition of the ski trails at Money's Bay: [Mooney's Bay: Cross-country ski trail condition reports - Ottawa, Gatineau, Chelsea, Kanata. ∴ \(xcottawa.ca\)](#)

To find out about the status of the facility visit the [COVID-19: Status of Recreation and Culture services](#) webpage on Ottawa.ca for up to date service resumption.

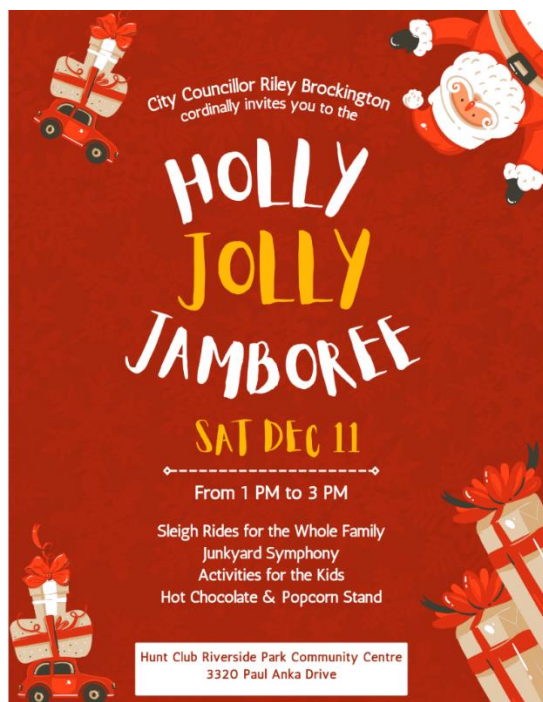
2200 Bank Street – South Keys Mall Redevelopment

The City of Ottawa's Planning, Department has received a Zoning By-law Amendment and Site Plan Control Application to develop 2, 21-storey towers containing commercial uses at grade and residential apartments above at the municipal addresses known as 2200 Bank Street. This is the first phase of a multi-phase, mixed-use redevelopment. Councillor Deans is hosting a public information meeting by zoom, where she has asked the applicant to present their application to the community. A question and answer period will follow. For more information please contact 613-580-2480 or diane.deans@ottawa.ca. Registration is also available on her website at www.dianedeans.ca.

River Ward Events

Holly Jolly Jamboree

On December 11, I will be hosting River Ward's annual Holiday Celebration. This year's edition will be held at the Hunt Club Riverside Park Community Centre, located at 3320 Paul Anka Dr. from 1:00-3:00 pm. Bring your family and friends and join me and enjoy a Hot chocolate, sleigh ride, Christmas treats and some family fun in the community. This year we collecting non-perishable food items to benefit the local family homes such as: Banff Community House, Debra Dynes Community House and the Caldwell Centre.



Mitten Tree at Riverside United Church

Donations of mittens, gloves, hats, scarfs, warm socks, etc will decorate a tree in the entryway of Riverside United Church (3191 Riverside Drive) during the month of December.

Various groups that use the building are partnering in this project and the community at large is invited to share in this project. There will be a collection bin outside the front doors (near the Earthhub bin) if the building is not open.

The donated items will then be shared in the community through various agencies to help keep everyone warm this winter. The Mitten Tree has been a project of Riverside United for the past 20 years and this is a good time to expand its possibilities as the church celebrates being a hub for community activity.

Riley Brockington
December 1, 2021